



U.S. Department of Justice
United States Attorney
Southern District of Georgia

Post Office Box 8970

100 Bull Street

Savannah, GA 31412

Savannah, GA 31401

(912) 652-4422 / FAX (912) 652-4388

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
March 23, 2005

Contact: Edmund A. Booth, Jr.
First Assistant U.S. Attorney
(706) 724-0517

OWNERS OF PHARMACEUTICAL WHOLESALE COMPANY AND EIGHT OTHERS
INDICTED FOR RACKETEERING ACTIVITIES

Lisa Godbey Wood, United States Attorney for the Southern District of Georgia, announced today the return of a two hundred and eighty-eight (288) count indictment by the federal grand jury sitting in Savannah against Martin J. Bradley III of Miami, Florida; Martin J. Bradley, Jr. of Savannah, Georgia; Jose A. Trespacios of Miami, Florida; Edwin Rivera, Jr. of Miami, Florida; Albert L. Tellechea of Miami, Florida; Marlene Caceres of Miami, Florida; Stephen B. Getz of Miami, Florida; Sara E. Griffin of Savannah, Georgia; Bio-Med Plus, Inc., a Florida corporation; and, Interland Associates, Inc., a Georgia corporation. Defendants Bradley, Jr. and Bradley III, father and son, are owners of Defendant Bio-Med Plus, Inc., a pharmaceutical wholesale company.

The Indictment arises out of an investigation into the unlawful purchase and sale of prescription drugs, primarily blood derivatives used in the treatment of cancer, AIDS, hemophilia and other ailments. The Defendant Bio-Med Plus, Inc., was a Florida pharmaceutical wholesale distributor alleged to be engaged in the buying and selling of fraudulently obtained blood derivatives and other prescription drugs.

The Defendants are charged with racketeering and conspiracy to commit racketeering in violation of the Racketeering Influenced and Corrupt Organization (RICO) statute.

There are multiple mail and wire fraud schemes alleged as racketeering activities of the RICO enterprise:

_____A.) The Florida Medicaid Scheme:

use of interstate wire communications to engage in a scheme to defraud the Florida Medicaid program and Florida Medicaid recipients of millions of dollars and an equal value of prescription drugs, primarily blood derivatives.

B.) The California Medicaid Scheme:

use of interstate wire communications and commercial carriers to engage in a scheme to defraud the California Medicaid program (“Medi-Cal”) and various California pharmacies of monies and blood factor medications.

C.) The Safety Net Program Scheme:

use of interstate wire communications to defraud the Immune Deficiency Foundation of prescription drugs intended to be administered to patients in need of the medications.

D.) The Puerto Rico Scheme:

use of interstate wire communications to engage in a scheme to defraud pharmaceutical manufacturers and wholesalers who sold prescription drugs for distribution in Puerto Rico and various Latin American countries.

Other Alleged Racketeering Activities include:

(1) transportation of stolen pharmaceuticals in interstate commerce; (2) money laundering

to conceal and promote various unlawful activity; (3) conducting monetary transactions to avoid cash transaction reporting requirements (structuring); (4) bankruptcy fraud; and, (5) willfully failing to report interests in foreign bank accounts.

In addition to racketeering and conspiracy to commit racketeering charges, the following charges are included in the indictment:

- Defendants Bradley III and Bradley, Jr. are charged with conspiracy to commit wire fraud and to pay unlawful kickbacks in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 371; wire fraud in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 1343; conspiracy to commit money laundering in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 1956(h); money laundering in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 1956; and, the failure to disclose interests in foreign bank accounts in violation of 31 U.S.C. § 5314 and 5322(b);
- Defendants Trespalacios, Rivera, Tellechea, Bio-Med Plus and Interland Associates, Inc. are charged with conspiracy to commit wire fraud and to pay unlawful kickbacks in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 371 and wire fraud in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 1343; and
- Defendant Caceres is charged with false declarations before a federal grand jury in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 1623.

Each Defendant convicted of Count One (RICO) or Count Two (RICO conspiracy) shall forfeit to the United States any interest in the RICO enterprise and any property derived from proceeds obtained by the RICO enterprise from racketeering activity. The United States seeks forfeiture of certain business entities, including Bio-Med Plus, Inc. and Interland, Inc., and no less than \$45,000,000, representing the amount of money involved in the offenses. For the Defendants charged with RICO and RICO conspiracy, the maximum statutory penalties for each

count include: not more than twenty (20) years imprisonment; a fine of not more than \$250,000; and, not more than three (3) years of supervised release.

Ms. Wood stressed that an Indictment is only an accusation and is not evidence of guilt. The Defendants are entitled to a fair trial, during which it will be the Government's burden to prove guilt beyond a reasonable doubt.

The case was investigated by the Internal Revenue Service, Criminal Investigations Division; the U. S. Food and Drug Administration, Office of Inspector General; U. S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement; and, the Attorney General, State of Florida, Medicaid Fraud Control Unit. The Government is represented by Jim Durham and Jeff Buerstatte, Assistant United States Attorneys for the Southern District of Georgia.

####

09-05